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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/517,009	02/28/2000	Tomoyoshi Tsurufuji	8203.340	1229

7590 05/04/2004
Liniak Berenato Longacre & White
6550 Rock Spring Drive
Suite 240
Bethesda, MD 20817

EXAMINER

ROWAN, KURT C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3643

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES**

Paper No. 22

Application Number: 09/517,009
Filing Date: February 28, 2000
Appellant(s): TSURUFUJI, TOMOYOSHI

****Matt Johnson***
For Appellant

MAILED

MAY 4 - 2004

GROUP 3600

EXAMINER'S ANSWER

This is in response to the appeal brief filed January 14, 2004.

Art Unit: 3643

(1) *Real Party in Interest*

A statement identifying the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

(2) *Related Appeals and Interferences*

A statement identifying the related appeals and interferences which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the decision in the pending appeal is contained in the brief.

(3) *Status of Claims*

The statement of the status of the claims contained in the brief is correct.

(4) *Status of Amendments After Final*

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

(5) *Summary of Invention*

The summary of invention contained in the brief is correct.

(6) *Issues*

The appellant's statement of the issues in the brief is correct.

(7) *Grouping of Claims*

Appellant's brief includes a statement that claims 1-7, and 9 do not stand or fall together and provides reasons as set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(c)(7) and (c)(8).

Appellant's brief includes a statement that claims 4 and 8 stand or fall together and provides reasons as set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(c)(7) and (c)(8).

(8) *Claims Appealed*

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

Art Unit: 3643

(9) Prior Art of Record

JP 10-52195

1998

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by JP 10-52195.

This rejection is set forth in prior Office Action, Paper No. 5.

(11) Response to Argument

applicant argues that JP 10-52195 fails to disclose that the click sound generation mechanism is installed between the main body and the nut member and states that the click sound mechanism is installed between the washer member 50 and the hood 11. it is correct to state that the click sound generating mechanism is located between the washer like member 50 and the hood 11. However, these members are between the main body 10 and the movable nut 46 as shown in fig. 5. Applicant used the open-ended term "comprising" which does not preclude other elements. Further, the claim does not state that the click sound generating mechanism is directly between the main body and the nut member.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Application/Control Number: 09/517,009
Art Unit: 3643

Page 4

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt Rowan
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3643



KR
May 2, 2004

Conferees
PP PP
DA



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Appeal Conference Information Worksheet

Date: April 28, 2004

Serial No.: 09/517,009 GAU: 3643 Examiner: Rowan

Conferees:

		Other Time Hrs.
SPE/ Primary	<u>Poon</u>	
Primary	<u>Rowan</u>	
Primary/ Examiner	<u>Ank</u>	

- ☒ Are all issues contained in the Appeal Brief properly appealable?
- ☒ Is the Appeal Brief in compliance with 37 CFR 1.192?
- ☒ Have those amendments initialed for entry actually been entered?
- ☒ Have all IDS submissions been treated?
- ☒ Are there any unentered After Final amendments and if so, would it make the case allowable?
- ☒ Does the application contain an indication of allowable subject matter and if so, did or can the examiner suggest claim language to make the case allowable?
- ☐ REMINDER: All issues raised in the Brief must be clearly addressed in the Answer.
- ☐ REMINDER: Note that a conference was held and provide the initials of the conferees at the bottom of the Examiner's Answer.

RESULTS

The Rejection

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Maintained as in the Final Rejection
 Changed (dropped rejection of some claims)
 Withdrawn

Disposition of the Case

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Sent to the Board
 Reopened Prosecution
 Allowed with Amendment
 Allowed without Amendment

Notes:
